



City of San Marcos

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NEWS

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For Immediate Release

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Road Work Begins Again on May 16 **Sessom Drive Open for Texas State Graduation**

The City of San Marcos has completed the initial phase of drainage improvements and pavement reconstruction on Sessom Drive between Academy and University. All traffic controls have been removed and all roadway lanes are open in anticipation of Texas State University graduation ceremonies this weekend.

Following graduation ceremonies May 14 - 15, the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) will begin resurfacing of Sessom to include guardrail improvement and milling and overlay from University Drive to Academy to create a smooth, clean final surface with fresh striping. Milling will begin on Sessom on Sunday evening, May 16.

Sessom Drive reconstruction, the first phase of several projects scheduled in the Sessom North-LBJ area, began March 4 and included repair of drainage inlets, installation of new culverts to improve drainage and repair of failing pavement. Austin Underground, Inc was the contractor for the \$1.15 million reconstruction.

The project was delayed due to utility conflicts and the addition of a 48" culvert crossing west of North LBJ to improve capacity across Sessom. The drainage system will connect to future storm drains that Texas State University is developing to reduce the amount of water coming down the hillside to Sessom.

At the City's request, TxDOT will apply a porous friction course (PFC) on the roadway surface to reduce hydroplaning tendencies and improve traction.

"The most important benefit of PFC is increased safety during wet weather," said Laurie Moyer, Assistant City Manager. "Our priority is to improve conditions along this major arterial for Texas State students, University personnel and the general public."

TxDOT improvements are expected to last one to two months with final completion scheduled for early July. Crews may work at night to significantly reduce the schedule.

Motorists are advised to continue to watch for lane closures and construction crews following graduation and through early summer.

In April 2011, the City is slated to begin the second phase of the Sessom Drive reconstruction project to include:

- Pedestrian safety improvements at the intersection of Sessom and University
- Sidewalk improvements and the addition of a hike & bike trail along Sessom on the campus side of the street
- Realignment of Peques to intersect with State Street

For more information on this project, call the City of San Marcos Capital Improvements Department at 512.393.8130.

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